

I**P****S****B**

I N D I A N A P R O F E S S I O N A L S T A N D A R D S B O A R D

Friday Update: July 26, 2002

GEAR UP for National Board Certification

The State Student Assistance Commission is pleased to support teachers who are pursuing National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) certification by awarding a \$50,000 grant to the IPSB. The grant to the IPSB comes from a GEAR UP grant the Twenty-First Century Scholars program of the Commission has from the US Department of Education. In addition to early intervention and scholarships for students, GEAR UP includes a professional development component for teachers.

The award will fund 50 subsidies of \$850 each for Hoosier educators pursuing (NBPTS) certification. With this grant, the IPSB will be able to fund a total of 80 \$2,000 stipends. See http://www.in.gov/psb/topics/cand_sub.html for details on applying for the subsidy.

Mentor Stipend Checks

The mentor stipend checks will be processed once the funds are formally transferred to the IPSB. The IPSB has the database of recipients ready and will run the checks as soon as authorization of funding is received from other state agencies.

ESEA: Paraprofessional Licensure

The Teacher Quality provision of Title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) includes licensing/qualifications for paraprofessionals. These qualifications include two years of college or an associate's degree or formal state or local academic assessment. Currently, ETS (Educational Testing Service) is developing a test that will meet the provisions of the law. The IPSB is working with ETS on piloting the test in September and setting cut-off scores in October to meet these provisions. The test should be available in January 2003. More information will be available in the coming months. **Please note:** PRAXIS I (reading, writing, and math) is not an appropriate test for the provisions in ESEA.

Did you know? Less than 2% of the teachers in Indiana teach on limited licenses. Most of these teachers are fully licensed in other areas and are on limited licenses in areas they are adding to their licenses. Over 80% of the limited licenses are in special education.